

delicate, elongated bristle-like spines, instead of the broad scale of that genus. From all other genera of the family it is most distinct and unlike.

The MS. description of this very curious coral was accidentally mislaid at the time at which it was read, and did not appear in the printed Proceedings of the Society. It was figured, by an error of the artist, for and under the name of *Nidalia occidentalis* in the Proceedings of the Zoological Society for 1851, Radiata, Pl. III. To rectify the error so committed, *Nidalia occidentalis* is now figured (Pl. VII.).

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June 23, 1857.

Dr. Gray, F.R.S., V.P. Zool. & Ent. Soc., in the Chair.

The following papers were read:—

1. DESCRIPTIONS OF TWELVE NEW OR LITTLE-KNOWN SPECIES  
OF THE SOUTH AMERICAN FAMILY FORMICARIIDÆ.  
By PHILIP LUTLEY SCLATER, M.A., F.L.S. ETC.

(Aves, Pl. CXXVI.)

1. GRALLARIA FERRUGINEIPECTUS.

*Supra pallide brunnea, olivaceo induta: loris et regione oculari et auriculari fulvo tinctis: subtus flavicanti-ferruginea, collo antico medialiter et ventre toto cum crisso albis: alis nigricantibus pallido brunneo limbatis, tectricibus alarum superioribus omnino nigricantibus, inferioribus autem cum campterio ochraceis: rostri nigri basi flavicante: pedibus pallidis.*

Long. tota 3·8, alæ 2·6, caudæ 1·2, tarsi ·85.

*Hab.* In Venezuela, in vicin. urbis Caraccas (*Levraud*).

*Mus.* Paris.

2. GRALLARIA LORICATA.

*Supra olivacea: pileo castaneo: oculorum ambitu, loris et gula tota albidis, fulvo tinctis: stria duplici gutturis utrinque nigra: pectoris et ventris lateralis plumis omnibus medialiter fulvo-albidis, undique late nigro marginatis: ventre medio et crisso albis, hypochondriis brunnescentibus: rostro clare brunneo, basi flavida: tectricibus subalaribus pallide brunneis.*

Long. tota 4·0, alæ 2·8, caudæ 0·8, tarsi 1·6.

*Hab.* In Venezuela, in vicin. urbis Caraccas (*Levraud*).

*Mus.* Paris.

These two *Grallaricæ* are of smaller size and have shorter tarsi

than the typical members of the genus. The bill also is shorter, broader, and more flattened, and furnished with many basal bristles. Together with Lafresnaye's *Grallaria nana*, they seem to form a subordinate group pointing towards *Conopophaga*.

### 3. HYPOCNEMIS MELANOPOGON.

♂. *Cinereus, subtus dilutior, ventre medio albicante; gula nigra: alis brunnescenti-nigris, tectricibus omnibus albo marginatis: cauda nigra reatricibus omnibus anguste albo terminatis: rostro nigro, pedibus fuscis.*

♀ aut ♂ junr. *Supra mari adulto similis, subtus gutture et pectore cinereo variegatis, gastræo albo, lateraliter cinerascentiore.*

Long. tota 4·5, alæ 2·5, caudæ 1·5.

*Hab.* In Peruvia Orientali, Chamicurros (*Hauxwell*).

*Mus.* Brit. et P. L. S.

This bird nearly resembles *H. pæcilonota* and *H. myiotherina* in style of colouring, but the bill is longer and more slender, and more like that of some of the species of *Myrmeciza*. From *H. pæcilonota* it is easily distinguished by the want of the white edgings of the interscapularies, from *H. myiotherina* by the restraint of the black colour to the throat, the want of the superciliary mark, and by the white termination of the rectrices.

I have two specimens of this species in my own collection, and there is one in the British Museum, which formed part of Hauxwell's collection from Chamicurros.

### 4. FORMICIVORA MELÆNA.

*Fuliginoso-niger, subtus intensior; lateribus plumosis cum tectricibus subalaribus albis: alarum tectricibus et caudæ reatricibus albo terminatis: rostro et pedibus nigris.*

Long. tota 4·0, alæ 3·1, caudæ 2·5.

*Hab.* New Grenada, Bogota.

*Mus.* P. L. S.

*Obs.* Similis *F. axillari*, sed colore corporis supra nigri nec plumbei dignoscenda.

### 5. FORMICIVORA UROSTICTA. (Pl. CXXVI. fig. 1.)

*Cinerea subtus dilutior et magis albescens: plaga gulari elongata nigra: alis nigricanti-cinereis extus cinereo strictissime limbatis, tectricibus autem nigris, albo terminatis: cauda nigra, reatricibus omnibus albo late terminatis; reatricibus unæ utrinque extimæ tertia fere parte apicali alba, hoc colore apud alias retrices gradatim decrescente: rostro nigro, pedibus fuscis.*

Long. tota 3·5, alæ 2·0, caudæ 1·2.

*Hab.* In Brasilia Orientali.

*Mus.* Brit. et P. L. S.

*Obs.* A *Formicivora axillari* et aliis affinibus colore subtus dilutiore, gula nigra magis restricta et præsertim reatricum apicibus late albis distinguenda.

## 6. FORMICIVORA BREVICAUDA.

*Formicivora brevicauda*, Sw., Zool. Journ. ii. p. 148.

♂. *Cinereus unicolor, plaga ovali in gutture et pectore superiore nigra: alis nigricantibus extus cinereo limbatis, harum autem tectricibus nigris albo terminatis: cauda brevi, colore nigro-cinerea, rectricum macula subapicali nigra, ipsarum autem apicibus albidis: rostro corneo, pedibus nigris.*

♀. *Olivascenti-brunnea, subtus clarior, capite subcinereo gutture albicantiore: tectricum alarium apicibus colore dilutionibus.*

*Hab.* In Brasilia Orientali prope urbem Bahia (Sw.).

*Mus.* Brit. et P. L. S.

*Obs.* Species ab auctoribus cum *F. axillari* et affinis confusa, sed crassitie minore, cauda brevior, colore corporis cinereo unicolore et plaga gutturali ovali bene definita facile dignoscenda.

## 7. FORMICIVORA HAUXWELLI. (Pl. CXXVI. fig. 2.)

*Plumbea, subtus paulo dilutior, mento albescentiore: alis nigris, tectricibus omnibus albo terminatis, duas lineas albas formantibus; secundariis dorso proximis extus caudæ quoque tectricibus et rectricibus ipsis omnibus macula terminali alba præditis: uropygii plumis laxis, elongatis: cauda brevissima: rostro nigricanti-plumbeo, pedibus fuscis.*

Long. tota 3·7, alæ 2·1, caudæ 9.

*Hab.* In Peruv. Orientali (*Hauxwell*).

*Mus.* Brit.

## 8. FORMICIVORA CINERASCENS.

*Formicivora cærulescens?*, Sclater, P. Z. S. 1854, p. 112 (nec Vieill.).

*Pallide cinerascens fere unicolor, subtus dilutior; interscapularium basibus albis: alis nigricanti-brunneis cinereo limbatis; tectricum apicibus albo guttulatis: cauda nigricante, rectricibus omnibus albo terminatis: rostro et pedibus nigris.*

Long. tota 6·0, alæ 2·4, caudæ 2·2.

*Hab.* In Peruv. Orientali, Chamicurros (*Hauxwell*) et in ripis fl. Napo.

*Mus.* Brit.

*Obs.* Similis *F. cærulescenti* ex Brasilia sed rostro fortiore et longiore, cauda brevior et æqualiore, colore corporis inferioris dilutior et campteriis non albis distinguenda.

I formerly referred this bird to Vieillot's *Form. cærulescens*, of which Menetries has given a figure in his 'Monograph of the Myiotherinæ,' pl. 6. But a comparison of specimens of both species, which are now in the British Museum, has convinced me that these two birds, though much resembling each other in plumage, are essentially distinct, and I have given above the characters by which they may be easily separated.

The example from Chamicurros, which was part of Mr. Hauxwell's fine collection, is not quite mature, and shows brownish colour-

ing beneath and upon the wings. Like *F. cærulescens*, this bird has only ten rectrices.

#### 9. HERPSILOCHMUS PECTORALIS.

*Cinereus, dorsi medii plumis albo mixtis; pileo nigro: fronte, superciliis et lateribus capitis albis: alis nigris, tectricum omnium apicibus albo guttatis, secundariis late, primariis stricte albo extus marginatis: cauda nigra, rectricis unæ utrinque extimæ dimidio apicali et proximarum trium apicibus gradatim decreescentibus albis; reetricibus duabus intermediis extus anguste albo marginalis et tectricum caudæ apicibus quibusdam eodem colore guttatis: subtus obscure cinereus, plaga magna in pectore antico nigro: rostro plumbeo, mandibula inferiore albicante: pedibus nigris.*

Long. tota 5·0, alæ 2·1, caudæ 1·7.

My attention was first called to this species when looking through the specimens of this family in the Museum of the Academy of Nat. Sc. of Philadelphia.

There is also a single specimen in the British Museum, which came, I believe, from the same origin as the one at Philadelphia—that is from the Massena collection. There is no locality affixed.

In style of colouring this bird seems to come nearest to *H. pileatus*, but it is much larger in size, and the pectoral black patch renders it easily distinguishable from every bird of the family known to me.

#### 10. DYSITHAMNUS XANTHOPTERUS.

*Dasythamnus xanthopterus*, Burm. Syst. Ueb. d. Th. Bras. iii. p. 81.

♂. *Capite colloque cinereis, fronte, regione superciliari et lateribus capitis albo striolatis: interscapulio et alis extus læte rufis, illo dilutiore; dorso postico valde plumoso, colore viridescenti-rufo, hujus pennarum basibus cinereis: cauda nigricanti-cinerea, reetricibus extus rufescente marginatis: subtus albus, lateribus cervicis cinereis, ventris autem ochraceis: rostri nigri mandibula inferiore pallida, pedibus nigris.*

♀. *Mari similis sed pileo rufo et subtus magis fusco-flavicans.*

Long. tota 5·5, alæ 2·4, caudæ 2·0.

*Hab.* In Brasilia Orientali.

*Mus.* Brit. et P. L. S.

The British Museum possesses the male, and I have a female specimen of this *Dysithamnus*, which is easily recognizable by its deep chestnut-red wings and back; the same in both sexes. The bend of the wing and whole of the upper coverts are of this colour, and I could hardly, therefore, at first think it possible that this could be the *Dasythamnus xanthopterus* of Burmeister (Syst. Ueb. d. Th. Bras. iii. p. 81), although his description agrees with the female of my species. But recollecting that *ξανθός*, though commonly used in Natural History as synonymous with the Latin *flavus* and English

“yellow,” is also capable of bearing the meaning “auburn,” or even “chestnut;” it appears to me that the name “*xanthopterus*,” though eminently calculated to mislead as applied to this bird, is perhaps not sufficiently inaccurate to require to be replaced by a new name. I have therefore retained Professor Burmeister’s appellation for this species. His single example was obtained in the vicinity of New Friburg in the province of Rio de Janeiro. Those in the British Museum and my own collection have the ordinary appearance of Brazilian skins, and are probably from Rio or Bahia.

I do not know what has induced Prof. Burmeister to attempt to change Cabanis’s correctly formed generic term *Dysithamnus* into *Dasythamnus*; but in this, as in other instances, that author seems to undervalue the principle of priority, now universally recognized in the application of names in Natural History.

#### 11. THAMNOPHILUS MELANOTHORAX.

*Supra intense castaneus, remigibus alarum intus nigricanti-brunneis, lateribus capitis et corpore subtus ad imum pectus atris, hoc colore in ventrem sensim dilutiore: ventre et lateribus olivascanti-brunneis rufo tinctis: cauda unicolore castanea: rostro corneo, pedibus nigro-fuscis.*

Long. tota 6·5, alæ 3·2, caudæ 2·8.

*Hab.* In America Meridionali?

*Mus.* Brit.

I have never met with but the single example of this curious bird which is in the British Museum. The genus *Thamnophilus* is the only one I know of in which it can be placed; but the bill is more conical and thicker and rather shorter than in the birds of that group, which most nearly approach it in size. There are two white spots on the outer secondaries of the specimen, but these are evidently the results of an incipient albinism.

#### 12. THAMNOPHILUS MELANOCEPS.

*Thamnophilus melanocephus*, Spix, Av. Bras. ii. pl. 39. fig. 1. p. 28.

*Ferrugineo-rufus, subtus clarior: capite toto undique et collo supero nigris: rostro et pedibus nigris.*

Long. tota 7·0, alæ 3·2, caudæ 2·4.

*Hab.* Eastern Peru, Sarayaçu on the Ucayali (*Cast. et Dev.*).

*Mus.* Paris.

I was not acquainted with this fine species of *Thamnophilus* when I wrote the article on the arrangement of those birds in the ‘Edinburgh N. Phil. Journal.’ I have since seen several examples in the Museum of the Jardin des Plantes, which were obtained by MM. de Castelnau and Deville at Sarayaçu on the Ucayali. The irides are marked “orange.”